

Message Text

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61

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SWF-02 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02 SP-03

STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 PM-07

NSC-07 SS-20 NEA-10 DODE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

DRC-01 /161 W

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R 241041Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8867

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 1109

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EEC US DA

SUBJECT: DANISH VIEW OF PROSPECTS FOR US-EC CONSULTATIONS

SUMMARY: DANISH POLITICAL DIRECTOR SAYS SIGNIFICANT
PROGRESS TOWARD IMPROVING US-EC CONSULTATIONS WAS
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REGISTERED AT BONN MEETINGS LAST WEEK OF EC POLITICAL

DIRECTORS AND FOREIGN MINISTERS. SENSE OF BOTH MEETINGS REPORTEDLY WAS TO ACCENTUATE POSITIVE, IN FORM OF PRAGMATIC ARRANGEMENTS, AND BYPASS NEGATIVE, FORMALISTIC, ASPECTS. END SUMMARY.

1. IN REVIEWING BONN DISCUSSIONS OF EUROPEAN-AMERICAN CONSULTATIONS IN GENERAL, DANISH POLITICAL DIRECTOR BORCH CONFIRMED TO DCM APRIL 23 THAT THERE HAD BEEN GENERAL SENTIMENT FOR GETTING AWAY FROM WRITTEN FORMULATIONS AND IN FAVOR OF PRAGMATIC METHODS. GERMANS, ABOVE ALL, WANT TO AVOID DIFFICULTIES OF RECENT PAST, HE SAID. BECAUSE THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PRESIDENCY OF EC, GERMANS WANT A CLEAR MANDATE, ALTHOUGH EVERYONE RECOGNIZES THAT WHEN FACED WITH UNANSWERABLE QUESTIONS IT IS BETTER NOT TO ASK THEM.

2. BORCH SAID HE STRONGLY FAVORS WORKING PROCEDURES WHICH CAN DEVELOP NATURALLY INTO IMPROVED CONSULTATIONS. ON ONE HAND, EC SIMPLY CANNOT GET AWAY FROM IDEA OF EUROPEAN CONSENSUS. ON OTHER HAND, GENERAL SENSE OF MEETING AT BONN WAS THAT FLEXIBLE AND PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR US-EC DISCUSSIONS WOULD IN FACT LEAD TO KIND OF THOROUGH-GOING CONSULTATIONS USG DESIRED. HE STRESSED THAT ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED IN CONCERT ARE DIFFERENT, AND THAT INTERESTS OF VARIOUS PARTIES ON SPECIFIC ISSUES ARE ALSO DIFFERENT. IN HIS VIEW, TRYING TO MAKE FORMAL RULES WHICH COULD COVER HANDLING OF ALL ISSUES IS SELF-DEFEATING.

3. BORCH SAID HE BELIEVED THAT SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS WAS ACHIEVED AT BONN ON EC-US CONSULATION PROBLEM. HE ADDED AN IMPORTANT CAVEAT, HOWEVER, SAYING THAT "WE ARE STILL LEFT WITH THE NINE AS A COLLECTIVITY." THE PRESIDENCY MUST BE GIVEN AUTHORITY EACH TIME TO CONSULT FOR CONSULATIONS TO TAKE PLACE. WHAT HE TERMED PYRAMID PROBLEM (WHEN SECRETARY KISSINGER HAS TO MEET WITH ONE SPOKESMAN FOR THE COMMUNITIES) WILL TAKE CARE OF ITSELF IN THE FUTURE, HE BELIEVES. HE EMPHASIZED HIS CONFIDENCE THAT WE CAN WORK OUT THESE PROBLEMS, BUT QUESTION OF WHEN HAS NOT YET BEEN DECIDED.

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4. BORCH NOTED THAT FOREGOING ACCOUNT BASED LARGELY ON RESULT OF LENGTHY AND RELAXED AFTER-DINNER DISCUSSION AMONG EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS, ALTHOUGH HE UNDERSTOOD LATER TALKS AMONG FOREIGN MINISTERS ON THIS POINT WERE ESSENTIALLY PARALLEL. HE ASSUMED THAT MINISTERS WILL PUT SOMETHING ON PAPER AT THEIR NEXT GATHERING. BORCH ASKED WHETHER ANYONE HAD BRIEFED US ON BONN DISCUSSION

OF NATO MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE. INFORMED THAT THEY HAD NOT TO EMBASSY'S KNOWLEDGE, BORCH RECALLED THAT THIS HAD BEEN LEFT TO THE BRITISH AND SAID WE WOULD NO DOUBT BE HEARING FROM THEM ABOUT IT. HE DID NOT VOLUNTEER ANY INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT.

5. BORCH MENTIONED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT EC FOREIGN MINISTERS BELIEVED THEIR FRENCH COLLEAGUE, JOBERT, WAS QUITE LIKELY TO RETAIN HIS POST AFTER FRENCH ELECTIONS NEXT MONTH.

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